



Benjamin C. Wells, MA, RPA
Assistant Project Manager

Ben Wells, MA, RPA, has over 8 years of professional maritime archaeological experience and joined the SEARCH maritime group in 2019. He is responsible for marine archaeological data review and processing, sub-bottom analysis and interpretation, and report writing. Mr. Wells earned a master's degree in Historical/Maritime Archaeology from the University of West Florida in 2015 and a bachelor's degree from Mercyhurst University in 2010. He has worked on maritime projects throughout the Gulf Coast region, along the Atlantic seaboard, and most recently managed projects in Greece, Italy, Kuwait, and Germany. Mr. Wells has experience working on cultural resource planning and analyses for multiple wind farms along the Atlantic coast and routinely serves as a technical point-of-contact during Section 106 Tribal consultation. Mr. Wells is listed on the Register of Professional Archaeologists (RPA).

EDUCATION

MA 2015 Historical/Maritime Archaeology. University of West Florida.
BA 2010 Anthropology/Archaeology, History minor. Mercyhurst University.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2022-present Assistant Maritime Project Manager, SEARCH
2019-2022 Maritime Archaeologist, SEARCH
2018-2019 Project Manager, SNA International (contract to DPAA Partnerships & Innovations)
2016-2018 Nautical Archaeologist II, R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates Inc.
2016-2016 Senior Archaeologist, Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources, Bureau of Archaeological Research
2014-2015 Field Director, Archaeology Institute, University of West Florida

PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS

Register of Professional Archaeologists (39695196)
SDI Open Water Scuba Instructor (22166)
TDI Surface Supplied Instructor (22166)
DAN ProMember/DEMP Instructor (2510983)

PROJECT EXPERIENCE

Assistant Maritime Project Manager, Cultural Resources Services for Construction Operation Procedures (COP) for New York Bight Offshore Wind Project, New York, Atlantic Ocean. Responsible for survey plan review, pre-survey meeting presentation materials, and submerged pre-contact subject matter expert. SEARCH is providing subject matter experts for qualified marine archaeology and tribal liaison services. Conducted for RWE Renewables (aka Community Wind). Ongoing

Maritime Project Manager, Qualified Marine Archaeology and Marine Archaeology Consulting Services for the New England Wind (formerly Vineyard Wind) Offshore Wind Project, Massachusetts, Atlantic Ocean, Vineyard Wind Farm Project. Responsible for project management, cultural resource analyses, report production, geotechnical clearances, and geoarchaeological coring campaign. SEARCH provided technical support to BOEM's completion and sufficiency review of the review of Marine Archaeological Resources Assessment (MARA). Conducted for Park City Wind, LLC. Ongoing



Assistant Maritime Project Manager, Phase II Cultural Resource Investigation of a Proposed Access Channel for the Mid-Bay Island Ecosystem Restoration Project at James Island, Dorchester County, Maryland. Responsible for cultural resources analyses, geoarchaeological core processing and review, and report production. SEARCH is providing archaeology coring and processing to analyze a suspected paleolandscape located within the floodplain area. Conducted for Stell for USACE Albuquerque District. Ongoing

Assistant Maritime Project Manager, Cultural Resource Support for Ocean Wind 02 Offshore Wind Farm, Atlantic Ocean off New Jersey Coast. Responsible for project management, cultural resource analyses, report production, geotechnical clearances, and geoarchaeological coring campaign. SEARCH is providing subject matter experts for the Marine Archaeological Resources Assessment (MARA), visual affects report, and cultural resources sections for the Construction and Operation Plan (COP). Conducted for VHB for Ørsted. Ongoing

Maritime Archaeologist, Construction and operations Plan for a Proposed Offshore Wind Project, Boston, Massachusetts, Atlantic Ocean. Responsible for third-party assessment of the MARA. SEARCH provided technical support to BOEM's completion and sufficiency review of the review of MARA, Terrestrial Archaeological Resources Assessment (TARA), and Historic Resources Visual Effects Analysis. Conducted for ICF Jones & Stoke, Inc. for Mayflower Offshore Wind Energy, LLC. 2021

Maritime Archaeologist, Maritime Archaeology Services for Equinor Offshore Wind Project in the New York Bight, New York, Atlantic Ocean. Responsible for project management, cultural resource analyses, report production, geotechnical clearances, and geoarchaeological coring campaign. SEARCH provided support development of survey plan, data analysis, and supported permitting. Conducted for Tetra Tech for Empire Offshore Wind, LLC. 2021

Maritime Archaeologist, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) Survey Plan for Revolution Wind Farm, Rhode Island and Massachusetts. Responsible for cultural resource analyses, report production, geotechnical clearances, and geoarchaeological coring campaign. Conducted for Public Archaeology Laboratory for Ocean Wind LLC. 2021

Maritime Archaeologist, Phase I Cultural Resources Survey of an 80-mile Transmission Corridor for the Ocean Wind Project, New Jersey. Conducted for HDR Engineering, Inc. for Ørsted. 2021

Maritime Archaeologist, Submerged Cultural Resource Assessment Survey for the H2Ohio Sandusky Bay Restoration Initiative Nutrient Reduction Wetlands Project, Erie, Ottawa, and Sandusky Counties, Ohio. SEARCH conducted Phase I maritime and terrestrial surveys, including a pedestrian survey, shovel test excavation, and site delineation. Conducted for Baird & Associates for The Nature Conservancy. 2021

Maritime Archaeologist, Submerged Cultural Resources Assessment Survey, Calcasieu Pass Loop, Cameron Parish, Louisiana. SEARCH conducted an underwater archaeological investigation, including background research, remote-sensing survey, and dive investigation, in support of proposed dredging of an area in the Calcasieu Pass Loop adjacent to Monkey Island. Conducted for Venture Global LNG. 2020

Maritime Archaeologist, Marine Archaeological Resources Assessment for the Amitie Subsea Cable. Responsible for cultural resources analyses and report production. Conducted for ERM. 2020



Maritime Archaeologist, Analysis of Geoarchaeological Cores in Support of the Pier 11 South Dredging at Naval Station Norfolk, Norfolk, Virginia. Conducted for EA Engineering, Science, and Technology, Inc., PBC. 2019

Maritime Archaeologist, Submerged Cultural Resource Assessment Survey for the State Road 16 Shands Bridge over the St. Johns River, St. Johns and Clay Counties, Florida. Conducted for RS&H, Inc. 2019

Maritime Archaeologist, Jacksonville Harbor Outer Entrance Channel Submerged Cultural Resource Assessment Survey, Duval County, Florida. Conducted for the US Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District. 2019

Maritime Archaeologist, Marine Archaeological Resources Assessment for the Atlantic Shores Offshore Wind Project Site Assessment Plan (OCS-A 0499). Conducted for EDF Renewable Development, LLC, and Tetra Tech, Inc. 2019

Maritime Archaeologist, Avangrid Renewables Maritime Archaeological Resource Assessment of Three SAP Survey Areas within Kitty Hawk Offshore Lease Area (OCS-A 0508), North Carolina. Conducted for Avangrid Renewables, LLC. 2019

Project Manager, Elefsina Harbor Site Assessment and Phase III Planning. Conducted for DPAA Partnerships & Innovations. 2019

Project Manager, Großer Glasowsee Site Assessment and Phase III Planning. Conducted for DPAA Partnerships & Innovations. 2019

Project Manager, Rügen Phase I, II Survey Planning. Conducted for DPAA Partnerships & Innovations. 2019

Project Manager, Malta Phase III Planning. Conducted for DPAA Partnerships & Innovations. 2019

Project Manager, Großer Glasowsee Phase II Survey and Site Assessment. Conducted for DPAA Partnerships & Innovations. 2018

Project Manager, Kuwait Phase I Survey. Conducted for DPAA Partnerships & Innovations. 2018

Project Manager, Italy Phase II Site Assessment. Conducted for DPAA Partnerships & Innovations. 2018

Nautical Archaeologist II, Phase I Submerged Cultural Resources Analyses for the Manasota Key 10-Year Beach Management Plan, Charlotte County, Florida. Conducted for Ocean Surveys Inc. 2018

Nautical Archaeologist II, Geophysical/Cultural Resource Survey to Support the West Fourchon Marsh Creation and Nourishment Project (TE-134) Louisiana State Waters. Conducted for Coastal Engineering Consultants Inc. 2018

Nautical Archaeologist II, Marine Archaeological Resources Assessment for the Skipjack Offshore Wind Farm Project MET Buoy Installation Area, Official Protraction Areas, Salisbury NJ18-05, OCS Block 6375, Offshore Delaware. Conducted for Skipjack Offshore Energy LLC. 2018

Nautical Archaeologist II, Archaeological Assessment of East Timbalier Island Restoration Project (TE-118), Lafourche Parish, Louisiana. Conducted for MWH Americas Inc. 2017



Nautical Archaeologist II, Phase I Submerged Cultural Resources Analyses for the North Breton Island Restoration Project. Conducted for O'Brien & Gere Engineers Inc. 2017

Nautical Archaeologist II, Marine Archeological Resources Assessment for the Massachusetts Commercial Offshore Wind Lease Area, Installation Area Official Protraction Areas Providence NK19-07 and Block Island Shelf NK19-10, OCS Blocks 6021 (F1/B1) and 6976 (F2/B2), Offshore Massachusetts. Conducted for Bay State Wind LLC. 2017

Nautical Archaeologist II, Geophysical/Cultural Resource Survey to Support Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company's Offshore Raritan Bay Loop Natural Gas Pipeline Expansion New Jersey and New York State Waters. Conducted for Williams Partners LP. 2017

Nautical Archaeologist II, Phase I Submerged Cultural Resources Analyses for Three Circalittoral Reefs Located in the Gulf of Mexico Offshore Baldwin County, Alabama. Conducted for the State of Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Division. 2017

Nautical Archaeologist III, Cultural Resources Analyses in Support of the BRUSA Submarine Cable System. Conducted for Ecology & Environment Inc. 2017

Nautical Archaeologist III, Marine Archeological Resources Assessment for the Ocean Wind Farm Project MET Facilities Installation Areas Official Protraction Areas Wilmington NJ18-02 and Salisbury NJ18-05, OCS Blocks 6985, 6986, 7080, and 7081, Offshore New Jersey. Conducted for Ocean Wind LLC. 2017

Nautical Archaeologist III, Phase I Submerged Cultural Resources Analyses for the Valley Crossing Pipeline Project Cameron County Texas Volume II: Submerged Cultural Resources Investigations for the Valley Crossing Pipeline Project. Conducted for Valley Crossing Pipeline LLC. 2017

Nautical Archaeologist III, Phase I Submerged Cultural Resources Analyses for the Port Arthur Pipeline-Louisiana Connector Project Cameron Parish, Sabine Lake, Louisiana and Texas. Conducted for Port Arthur Pipeline LLC. 2017

Nautical Archaeologist III, Addendum to the Marine Archeological Resources Assessment for the Hancock County Marsh Living Shoreline Project, Louisiana & Mississippi State Waters. Conducted for Covington Civil & Environmental LLC. 2016

Nautical Archaeologist III, Marine Archeological Resources Assessment for the Massachusetts Commercial Offshore Wind Lease Area Met Facilities Installation Area, Official Protraction Areas Providence NK19-07 and Block Island Shelf NK19-10, OCS Blocks 6021 (F1/B1) and 6979 (F2/B2), Offshore Massachusetts. Conducted for Ørsted (formerly DONG Energy). 2016

Field Director, 8ES3345 Luna's Fleet Excavations, Pensacola Florida. Conducted under special categories grant from the Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources. 2015